6.148

How to Win, in 60 minutes
Judging Criteria

http://6.470.scripts.mit.edu/2015/contest/judging

• Functionality
• Usability
• Aesthetics
• Concept Execution
Judging Process

• First Cut
  – Staff vote on semifinalists
  – Number depends on quality of submissions

• Second Cut
  – Sponsors vote for final placing
  – Finalists get prizes
  – Extra prizes awarded at staff discretion
Special Guest

• Black Belt
• Won 6.470
• Very angry
• My twin brother, Neander Lin
6.148

How to Win

How not to Suck
What is the single most important thing that your website must have?
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Response</th>
<th>Votes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Compelling Idea</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Appealing Design</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Engaging Content</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maintainable Code</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>It Works</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
DO NOT ATTEMPT
Dramatization by Professional Actors
Commandment I

Your website must work.
Do not be this guy

Check your deployment yourself!

Application Error

An error occurred in the application and your page could not be served. Please try again in a few moments.

If you are the application owner, check your logs for details.
Commandment II
Your website must not break.
What have I seen break sites?

- Strings
- Long strings
- Short strings
- Blank strings
- Strings with newlines
- Strings with special characters
- Strings without special characters
- Strings with numbers
- Strings without numbers
- Strings of only numbers
- Strings without whitespace
- Strings composed entirely of whitespace
- Red string
- Blue string
- One string
- Two string
- String formatting
- Unicode
- UTF-8
- Arabic strings
- Non-arabic strings
- Chinese characters
- Japanese characters
- English characters
- Not having characters
- Uploading images that are not images
- Uploading images that are images
- Uploading small files
- Uploading big files
- Typing dates as MM/DD/YYYY
- Not typing dates as MM/DD/YYYY
- Clicking “back”
- Using the site during the full moon
- Using the site while wearing the color red
- And much more!
How do I fix this?

- Be careful of edge cases!
- Test your site.
Commandment III

If it looks like it works, it should work.
A Certain Login Form

username

password

remember me  reset password

login
Do not do this

that link points to http://maps.google.com/
Commandment IV
Handle expected errors.
What errors should you expect?

- Invalid inputs to forms
  - Blank inputs to form fields
  - Phone numbers that aren’t numbers
- 404 Page Not Found
- Unauthorized Access
Commandment V
Do not have glaring usability issues
Do not do this

we have places to go and people to see
How do I use this?
Commandment VI
Do not make me poke my eyes out
It is not 1996

Please do not be Geocities
Commandment VII
Secure your Website
Commandment VII

This man is not your friend.
But he will teach you security tomorrow.
Commandment VIII
Don’t be Evil
“Let’s make a website that breaks other sites!”

DO NOT DO THAT
UNSPEAKABLE THINGS WILL HAPPEN TO YOU
Commandment IX
Do Not Make Us Cry
How to get User Locations

• By Address
• By Name
• Use GPS
• Ask the Browser
• Click on a Map
How not to get User Locations

• Ask for Latitude and Longitude
Commandment X
Test Your Site
Ask your friends to test your site

Don’t wait until the last day!
Seriously. Test.

- Test while you build!
- Stop developing features at least 24 hours before the deadline
- Reserve that time to find and fix bugs
Make sure your website works.
6.148

How not to Suck

How to make a solid site
Announcements

• Tonight, 7-9 pm, 32-044
  – Office Hours
  – Advanced JS Lecture (32-144; 7pm)
• Thursday, 7 pm, 32-124
  – Hackathon / Office Hours
• You should be done with Milestone 1
  – Contact us if you aren’t